

Series I
Correspondence,
1932-1973

Box 2, Folder 27

June 11, 1957 -
September 24, 1957

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June 11, 1957

Dear Mr. Macomber:

I had quite a long talk with your wife yesterday relative to my apartment. You had asked me to discover for your records whether or not I paid the rent in advance or at the end of the month.

The facts are as follows:

Upon my arrival in Newport I lived in the BOQ. On October 6th, 1946 I gave up Naval quarters at the BOQ and came into town and about that time I took over the apartment at Mrs. Miller's house at 12 Mt. Vernon. On October 21st I paid her by check for the rent; On November 14th I paid her another check for the rent; and then on December 6th I paid her another check for the rent.

Thus, it is clear that I paid in advance. I had not thought that I had, but I presume that Mrs. Miller was in need of funds and asked me to pay ahead of time.

I hope this answers your question. Therefore, the rent which I am now paying should hold me until July 6th.

I hope that this matter will be clear to Captain Robertson as well as to yourself.

I appreciated greatly your letter relative to the money I let Mrs. Miller have for the bathroom and also your courtesy in permitting me to have certain items of your furniture. I will talk to you about this later.

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June 11, 1957

It is too bad that we are breaking up our relationship. It has always been a very happy one, although I was actually more associated with your mother-in-law than with you. She was very much of a lady and it was very much for that reason primarily that I was not very critical of many things which, as Mrs. Macomber says, were not too good.

With best regards, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

R. W. BATES

Mr. William P. Macomber
2533 East Main Road,
Portsmouth, R.I.

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11 June 1957

Dear Rip:

Thank you very much for the pictures of the goat and the assemblage there.

I think the photograph of the goat is quite good and I am happy that we have it.

A Captain in my office, whose son is a First Classman, says that the Naval Academy is very pleased about the whole thing and very appreciative, in particular, about the manner in which the presentation was made.

I do think that we were let down pretty badly in regard to publicity. It seems ridiculous that a goat of such quality did not receive more attention than it did.

However, we did not go into this mascot business for the purpose of publicity, but for the purpose of giving something which we hoped would be helpful to the Midshipmen. From what I hear concerning the painting of the goat's privates by persons unknown as well as the syruping and feathering of the goat by students from the University of Maryland, I cannot but feel that the Midshipmen have in fact responded to our hopes.

You did a swell job and I want you to know that I think so. With best regards to you and to Hazel and with many thanks again for all you have done, I am, as ever,

Your old friend,

R. W. BATES

ADM A. D. Struble, USN(Ret)

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June 26, 1957

Dear Catherine and George:

I certainly enjoyed myself yesterday at the party you gave at the Ida Lewis Yacht Club for the visiting yachtsmen of the Annapolis-Newport race.

Very fortunately, Benevolent Providence smiled, and therefore the day was divine--particularly at the Ida Lewis Yacht Club. As a matter of information, I felt cooler and more pleasant out there yesterday than I have felt for over a month. Many thanks!

I thought the Club had been beautifully redone, and I am proud of the fact that you, George, as Commodore, did it. I think that it makes everyone appreciate the Ida Lewis Yacht Club a lot more than before, although I must say that the members have always enjoyed the Club even with the old "trappings".

I think Muriel Adams did a tremendous job in the redecoration of the Club--she has a great deal more talent than one can imagine; not only is she a judge of horses and Hungarian music but now I discover that she is a designer as well. No wonder the Vanderbilt clan have been in the high fields of finance, yachting, horse racing, etc. for such a long time.

I thought the way you handled the "drinks" and the "light buffet" was excellent and I heard no complaints; only praise from all sources.

You have done so much for the local community, and for your friends, that I am sure that all of us who have been honored by being one of your guests recognize your pre-eminence in the many fields of local endeavor with which your names are always associated.

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June 26, 1957

With best regards, and with many
thanks for everything, I am, as ever,

Your old friend,

R. W. BATES

Mr. & Mrs. George H. Warren
118 Mill Street
Newport, R.I.

1011

26 June 1957

Dear Reg:

I was pleased to receive your letter of June 24th in which you requested that I obtain certain information regarding privileges of retired members.

I am happy to inform you that you are entitled, upon presentation of your identification card, to patronize the Commissary, the Wine Mess and any other facilities offered to members of the armed forces on active duty.

With regard to Elss, recently there has been promulgated a new form to be submitted by dependents of both active duty or retired members. It is the "Application for Dependents Authorization for Medical Care Card by Active Duty or Retired Member". For your information, the title is somewhat misleading as actually by submission of this form an identification card is given to the dependent which, in fact, entitles the dependent to utilize any facility offered (Commissary, Hospital, Theater, Clubs, etc.). It is not limited to medical care.

I enclose the subject form which should be completed in duplicate and presented to the Pass Office at Gate 1 of the Naval Station by Elsa (a picture is taken at this time to be placed on the I.D. card).

I was glad to learn that you feel the way you do about Henry Crommelin. He has always been a capable naval officer and is only seven "numbers" junior to Admiral Daniels, who commands the destroyers here (DesLant).

We have a new Chief of Staff here at the Naval War College--Rear Admiral Charles Lyman. He enjoyed a very fine reputation in the fleet for many years and was recently here at the Naval War College in charge of our Strategy & Tactics section. He is a fine gentleman.

I feel that the Navy Department has made no mistake in providing us with our new commanders in this area; that is (a) the President, Naval War College, Vice Admiral Stuart Ingersoll, who will report in August, (b) the Naval Base commander, Rear Admiral Crommelin, and (c) the Chief of Staff, Naval War College, Rear Admiral Lyman.

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26 June 1957

The Clambake Club will have their bachelor Clambake on July 4th and I would like to have you as my guest if you will come. Please let me know upon your arrival in Newport.

I am sorry that your son is leaving the Secretary of the Navy; he is a very fine officer and I have a great deal of admiration and, shall I say, affection for him. I know that his future is bright. I take a little bit of pride for it, as I feel that all of us helped.

I hope that you and Elsa are swell and that you will enjoy your summer here. Very frankly, it is quite hot and humid these days, but we are due for a break sooner or later!

With best regards, I am, as ever,

Your old friend,

R. W. BATES

VADM J. L. Keuffman, USN(Pet)
President,
Jefferson Medical College &
Medical Center
Philadelphia 7, Pa.

1013

14 August 1957

Dear "Cat":

I am sending you by separate correspondence a Naval War College necktie as a present to you, not only to indicate my personal affection, but to indicate the continuing interest of all of us here at the Naval War College in your welfare. We have followed your activities with great interest, and we all agree that you have succeeded admirably in your public relations, to say nothing of the conduct of your command.

This necktie is the outgrowth of a wish by the foreign officers here to have a symbol which they might wear with their civilian clothes which indicated that they were graduates of this institution. They thought that, by this device, they might be able to recognize one another in various international groups. I suggested the necktie and battled for it for a long time. In fact, the idea of a necktie is not new, and has been thought of by others, perhaps by yourself.

The original tie was very bad, and I rejected it flatly. Admiral Robbins then called me in to help design a new tie and this is the result.

The yellow represents the Navy, the red the Marines, the olive drab the Army, and the light blue the Air Force. The thickness of the stripes indicates loosely the proportion of the officers of the different services at the College. The body of the tie is, of course, good old navy blue.

I hope that you approve of the principle of a tie at the War College, and that you approve of this design.

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You will be glad to hear that Admiral Stuart Ingersoll has reported for duty as President, and Admiral Charles H. Lyman has reported as Chief of Staff. I feel confident that we will have a very effective year because of this setup. Admiral Robbins has left and has reported in to the Chief of Naval Personnel. Exactly what he is going to do none of us know.

With best regards to you and your family, and with pride in your continuous outstanding performance of duty, I am, as ever,

Your old friend,

VADM Charles R. Brown, USN
Commander U.S. SIXTH Fleet
USS SALEM (CA-139), Flagship
Care of Fleet Post Office
New York, New York

10 15

22 August 1957

Dear Roger:

Everytime I write to your about some purchase the time is limited as it is in this case. One of my officers is being retired physically-- he has had cancer of the throat and a heart attack--and will be leaving 1 September. I plan to have a dinner for him toward the end of the month. I would appreciate it very much if you would select some small tray for me and will inscribe on it the following or something similar:

"Captain and Mrs. H. M. S. Gimber
from the
World War II Battle Evaluation Group
Naval War College
1957"

I would like to have it here very shortly or a word from you as to when I can get it, because the date of my dinner may be affected thereby.

With best regards, and many thanks for your courtesies to me, I am, as ever,

Your old friend,

R. W. BATES

Mr. Roger Hallowell
Reed and Barton Company
Taunton, Mass.

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23 August 1957

American Airlines Inc.
100 Park Avenue
New York, New York

Attn: Mr. C. R. Smith

Dear Sir:

On Sunday last--that is Sunday, August 18th--I had a reservation on your flight 569 departing Hills Grove Airport, Providence, at 1540 (3:40 P.M.). I arrived on time but discovered shortly that, because of some electrical difficulty, the plane would be delayed. This fact was not discovered until all the passengers were in the plane. The result was that all of the passengers were forced to disembark and to await a decision in the matter. It was finally decided to fly a replacement plane from Boston which arrived at about 1820 (6:20 P.M.). I took this plane, and requested that the plane from New York to Washington be delayed a few minutes to pick up the few passengers in flight 569 going on from New York to Washington. This was done, and it was a very fine gesture on the part of the company. However, the above is only background.

What I am really writing to you about is to commend to you the services of your two ticket sales agents at the Hills Grove desk--Miss Anne Chandley and Miss Alice Pickard. These two young ladies operating under great pressure, because all of the passengers wanted immediate attention and immediate results, were able to keep calm under these pressures and to provide most satisfactory service to all. By their efficiency and calm determination they stilled incipient anger in many passengers, and caused many others to say to me, "I have never seen such efficient young ladies".

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Because of their excellent performance I feel that the unfortunate plane mishap was forgotten, and the American Airlines gained friends rather than lose them.

I should appreciate your courtesy if you would inform your Providence manager, Mr. Harris, about the performance of these two agents.

Very sincerely yours,

R. W. BATES
Rear Admiral, USN (Ret)

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27 August 1957

Dear Jack:

In accordance with your suggestion I called Mr. Mitler of the Navy League here and was invited to the monthly meeting last night, which invitation I accepted.

As you perhaps know, Newport was set up as an independent Council last night and Mr. Benjamin Sturges, the President of the Providence Council issued the charter. In fact he was photographed with Mr. Mitler. This Council operates differently from any other that I have seen. It is on a relatively low and working level and can in many ways be quite useful to the Navy, although it can also operate negatively. The enclosure here lists sixteen items which the Navy wishes to have cleared up in the Newport area. It will be observed that these items are all of a very minor nature but many people in the city have been trying to have them done for a long time. The hope, I presume, is that, if the town people discover that the Navy and the Navy League are responsible for improving their fair city, it will point up a friendly reaction toward the Navy.

Of course it must be remembered that this level of membership, i.e., the working level, is not entirely altruistic in its motives. These people are interested also in insuring that whatever is done will improve their own positions. For this reason the Council membership numbers men that own certain of the stores. These men are naturally interested in insuring that their business increases and that the Navy does nothing to prevent it. Captain Tiernan, USN (Ret), who is a member of the Newport City Council, as well as of this Council, told me last night that in one case a jeweler succeeded in stopping the sale of silver in the ship's store at the Naval Base (now known as the post exchange).

I spoke to Mr. Sturges about this Council, and the way it was run as a liaison between the Navy and the city. He said that it was new to him, but that he felt, as I did, that it was an interesting experiment and worth watching.

There did not seem to be any interest, at present anyway, in having talks by anyone. Instead each monthly meeting is devoted toward matters similar to those covered in the enclosure.

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I was asked to speak, and I pointed out that one of the principle reasons for the Navy League was to build up a national membership which would support Navy policies and that I didn't think that they were doing that here particularly. On the other hand, I also pointed out that the good will created by the local system, perhaps would be equal thereto. I talked about your interest in the Navy League, and of your efforts to increase the membership and to improve its position in the community. One of these days when I see you I'll tell you a little more about it.

The principle debate at this meeting occurred when Captain Tiernan endeavored to put the Navy on record against building the large refinery on Jamestown Island which may bring ill results into the lower Narragansett Bay area. This caused violent disagreement, but it was finally settled that the measure, instead of being voted on viva voce, would be voted on by letter. One question which arose about this was whether a stand of this kind was in accordance with the charter of the Navy League. I think that they finally decided that it was.

For your information there has been quite a war in this area over the possible building of this refinery in Jamestown and the Navy has taken a stand against it, but has little hope of stopping it.

I asked the Commandant this morning about the local Navy League. He replied that he thought that the Navy League might be helpful to him.

With best regards to you and to "Babe", and with the hope that in your desire to improve the Navy League, you don't decline in health.

I am, as ever,

Your old friend,

R. W. BATES

Rear Admiral John J. Bergen, USNR
40 Wall Street
New York, New York

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29 August 1957

Dear Hindman:

I received your letter with a great deal of regret. I did not expect to hear that you had not been promoted, but the sad fact of the situation is that you were not. Some days before I heard from you I went to Washington and I went into the office of BuPers which was originally Op-54. There, Captain A. R. Matter, who is a graduate of the Naval War College, is in charge of certain assignments. I spoke to him of your case and asked if he would investigate. There were at least three officers who started looking into the case and so far as I could see they had the necessary records. One of these officers was Captain Winters, whom you may know. If you know either Matter or Winters you might write to them for advice or information. After looking your case over for about half an hour--maybe more--the officers concerned arrived at the general conclusion that your record is outstanding and that they could see no reason why you had not been chosen with the others. This was naturally of great concern to me because I think that the best officers should be promoted. One officer, who was in my section after you, Commander Elmo Waring, was promoted. He was exec of one of the carriers and I got him the job.

I don't know what I can do to help you except to point out the error to those concerned, which, as you can see, I have already commenced doing. However, it is my firm opinion that you should, if you can, get one of your Admirals of consequence to write a letter to the next board pointing out the possibility of error. Selection boards do not like to be told they are wrong, which, of course, they often are, and therefore the letter has to be written with discretion. I could write a letter for you, but it would be of no value because the War College has given you fitness reports which basically are known to have come from me.

You want to be sure that the Admiral, if he writes a letter for you, does not write for others as well, because in such case your letter will be of no value.

From all that I can understand you did very well in VC-11, very well as exec of the ORISKANY, and are doing equally well at Corpus Christi. At least that is the data I got from the detail section of the Navy Department.

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I like your attitude in your letter. You have courage and character, and I feel sure that, if you do your job right, you will get picked up among the few.

I don't know how many people you know or how many pictures you have sent into the Navy Department, but perhaps you have a bum picture there. You wear a little moustache and your picture might tend to emphasize a point of view which is not true to you. This may seem picayunish to you, and it might well be, but I suggest you get a decent picture and send it in. Also you might have favorable information concerning your career which you have not submitted to the department but which you might well submit now.

This information should be of a type which would emphasize your successes in your naval career. I did that at the end of the war and everyone thought it was wonderful information for the selection board. The fact that I was not promoted had nothing to do with anything at the time because my failure was based on my age. An Admiral on the board wrote me a letter to that effect.

Please keep me advised as to your welfare. I have a great interest in the advancement of the officers in my section, not only because I know them well, but also I feel that the training they get here will improve them markedly in future naval service.

My best regards to your wife and "keep on the ball".

Best regards,

R. W. BATES

Commander S. E. HINDMAN, USN
U. S. Naval Air Station
Corpus Christi, Texas

1022

12 September 1957

Dear Old Swede:

I cannot begin to tell you with what pleasure I received your recent letter and with what disappointment when I learned that you had not been too well for some time.

At the time we dedicated the goat at the Naval Academy, I came down to Washington with expectations of seeing you, because I had heard that you were in the hospital there. Rip Struble and I talked about it but I think we received word that you had gone back to Chapel Hill and therefore the visit was out.

I am sorry to hear that you are not in better health. I have a heart condition myself but so far it has not in any way resembled yours. You have been a very remarkable patient with your problems and I have no doubt that it is your love of family and everything else which has kept you with us for lo! these many years, and will keep you with us for many years more.

With reference to the work on the Navy Goat, let me assure you that you are quite right about the responsibility for the goat. Ted Breed conceived the idea and deserves the credit for that. However, having decided on one sculptor, he refused for a long time to agree to another sculptor--one we chose. Mr. Spaminato (???), the Italian artist, whose model was accepted, told me after the dedication that he had considered me his major enemy, but he now considered that I had been his best friend. At the time of choice I talked strongly in favor of his goat. Then I forced the designers to guarantee the life of the goat, that is, I forced them to state emphatically that this goat, in its present rampant position would last forever. Except for this Rip did most of the work and Rip deserves most of

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the credit. I supported him throughout the whole affair, wrote him letters and told him to make decisions. This he did and I assure you we finally got our goat installed in great style.

As regards the stadium proposition I don't know what to say. I haven't done anything about it and I am now awaiting a decision from Hutch as to what is to be done.

I certainly like your next-door neighbor. I think that Keener Frazier is a wonderful fellow and did a lot of good here in this college. He is a very high type man, recognizes the high place this college enjoys in the collegiate community, and endeavored always to maintain it. He was a help to me and I shall miss him.

The Navy and Boston College are playing football on Saturday the 21st and I may decide to go. At the present moment I am delaying a decision in the matter as I am not sure that Boston College is worth much and I hate to travel a long way for a game that won't particularly excite me.

President Eisenhower is here and seems in excellent health. I haven't spoken to him but I was within five feet of him when he arrived. He answered my salute, and said "thank you" which I appreciated. I think that he is a fine President and I voted for the first time in my life for him. I would like to meet him and talk to him for a little while but I don't think that the opportunity will arise. I could write to tell him that I am a graduate of the Class of '15 at the Naval Academy and about the Bohemian Club, etc., but his interests and responsibilities are greater and wider than that.

There isn't much to report! I noted that you say very little of Ibbey, although you do mention Alice and her new child, and you do mention Buddy and Dick. I hope that all of them are well and are satisfied with their decision to depart the Navy. The more people who want to get out, the more intense I am against them and the more determined I am to endeavor to hold them in.

With best regards to you and to your whole family and with promises to write you again shortly, I am, as ever,

Your old friend,

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13 September 1957

Dear Hutch:

I have just written to Roy Horn to tell him that I am coming down, and very likely Admiral Ingersoll as well, on the 27th to discuss some matters with the Naval Institute. I further said that I thought that I would be there over the 28th and certainly over the 27th. I should appreciate it if you would reserve a room for me for the night of the 27th anyway at Carvel Hall. Outside of that I plan to be present at the dedication of the goat, D.V., on the next day. I am enclosing your form in regard to this.

Our West Point classmate, "Ike" Eisenhower, who, whether you know it or not, is President of these United States, is up here. He appears to be having a fine time. I have been very close to him but I haven't spoken to him. Perhaps I won't!

With best regards, I am, as ever,

Your old friend,

Commodore M. W. Hutchinson, USN (Ret)
6 ~~Place~~ Place
Annapolis, Maryland

1025

13 September 1957

Dear Roy:

I have spoken to Admiral Ingersoll, President of the Naval War College, about your desire that I appear before the Institute; and the Admiral seems to think that it is a very good idea and would like to attend himself. Therefore, I think it would be nice if you would write to him and say that you had heard from me that he had approved my coming down and that you would like to have him come as well. Both of us will be in Washington anyway, as I am bringing down my third volume of Leyte at that time to be printed, and he is going down to Washington for other matters.

As I am a member of the Goat Committee I hope to remain over for the dedication of the small goat. Therefore, I require a room for one night, at least at some hotel, preferably Carvel Hall. I certainly plan to return to Newport on Sunday. I wonder if you are willing to get into contact with our class secretary, Hutch, to ask him if he will arrange somehow my getting a room at a hotel. If he cannot I will have to stay in Washington and drive down the next day.

I have called the Athletic Association and they are going to let me have two tickets for the game. Actually I need only one, but another ticket can always be used.

I don't know what I'm going to talk about to you down there but it could very well be a discussion around the table which could be of benefit to us all.

I look forward to seeing you.

With best regards, I am,

Your old friend,

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September 16, 1957

Vice Admiral S. H. Ingersoll, USN
President
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Ingersoll:

Inasmuch as my old classmate, Rafe Bates, is so deeply involved in the whole study and presentation of naval history at the War College, I thought that he could give us some invaluable comments and suggestions on our Naval Institute program, both in regard to books and magazine articles. Consequently, I asked him if he could come down on Friday, 27 September, which seems the most convenient time.

He has written me that you also might possibly be able to come down and add your own suggestions and comments. Nothing could delight us more, and there is probably no one whose comments and suggestions would be of greater benefit. Your present connection with the War College and your past knowledge of the Naval Institute and its activities from your experiences as a member of the Board of Control would seem to make the occasion a most propitious one.

We have no definite agenda, so suggestions and comments can be unlimited. However, the discussions would probably center around the theme of how can the Naval Institute develop and publish articles and books of most value to the Navy and to naval personnel.

I have always regarded the Naval War College as being the center of higher naval education, and the source from which should originate the most constructive thinking. Some years back, as I recall, some of the finest professional articles submitted to the Naval Institute Proceedings originated at the Naval War College. We hope that those days will return.

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September 16, 1957

In addition, it is my belief that the studies of naval campaigns and naval history that are constantly under way at the Naval War College keep the War College informed not only of the best historical material being written in any field and in any country, but also of what is being developed even though it has not yet reached publication stage.

If convenient, I would like you and Commodore Bates to join us in the Institute office as early on Friday morning as you wish, have lunch with us, and then continue the discussion after lunch for as long as might seem desirable.

Regular homecoming festivities begin with the cocktail party to all alumni in Dahlgren Hall at 1830, and then dinner in the Mess Hall for all hands at 2000. There should be ample time after our discussions for you to renew any personal acquaintances in the Yard.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Roy de S. Horn
Commander, USN (Ret.)
Managing Editor

1028

18 September 1957

Dear Jimmie:

I received your note with a great deal of interest and, shall I say, a great deal of satisfaction. I had an idea that you had left Stonington when you gave up your job as Director of Mystic Seaport. However, judging from the address, you have not only not given up the job but you are still in Stonington.

The basic reason I have not sent you the study of the Battle of Surigao Strait is because the battle was never finished. This occurred because the officer who was doing the basic research on it was suddenly detached and I did not have time to continue the research and at the same time go ahead with the other volumes of Leyte. Beginning next month I am planning to complete the Battle of Surigao Strait and I shall see what we discover.

I do wish that you would come here to Newport. I shall be very happy indeed to show you what I have done on anything. Actually I am not allowed to mail my work out as it is Confidential and the distribution list is controlled by BuPers.

I would like to see you, so why not show up! Otherwise, how are you!

With best regards, I am, as ever,

Your old friend,

RAFE

Rear Admiral James Fife, USN (Ret)
"Homeport"
Stonington, Connecticut

1029

24 September 1957

Dear Barbara and Tom:

Although this letter might seem to you a little delayed I must say there have been reasons for it. We have been so busy here in the College that all of my Yeomen are furiously engaged. The result of this has been that I finally moved over to Admiral Eccles and borrowed the kindly service of his secretary, Mrs. King, who is preparing this letter.

Needless to say it was a great pleasure to see you both in Washington. I was sorry I arrived late but I must insist I did not delay over much. You were right, Tom, my plane arrived at a quarter of nine. I took the bus to the University Club, stopped enroute -- which delays including the University Club were not over a total of five minutes -- and then went to your place by taxi. Another little delay occurred when the driver went too far past your place and had to come back. The principle reason for the delay was not my devious route by auto but my long wait to get my bag. As you perhaps know I never carry a bag if I can avoid it. I don't like to load myself, therefore I always check it through. For some reason, in this case, there was a long delay before the luggage arrived.

I really enjoyed seeing you both and enjoyed greatly the dinner you so kindly prepared at such a late hour. As I said at the time, Barbara's chicken is beyond comparison. It is excellent -- far more than I had anticipated. I must admit that this gave me a good night's sleep; but also added calories which in view of the delightful situation I cheerfully accepted.

I was glad to see you so well ensconced in your home. You must be wonderful tenants because I doubt if I had as nice a home as that I would be loaning it to people. However, since you had borrowed this home before, the evidence is clear that you are tenants sans reproach.

I haven't written as yet to Admiral Kauffman nor to Deane Malott but I can assure you that I am going to do so as soon as possible. I like them both and I know they like me, so I may have some success.

People are constantly asking about you both and not in the way some might suspect. I was at dinner at the Wickes the other evening and sat on Marian's right. I made some remark

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about Admiral McCormick and Mrs. Wickes said that she had no particular interest in the McCormicks, her particular pets were the Robbins. This led to a discussion of the Robbins which was joined in by those around and was entirely friendly.

People on occasion do query as to what you, Tom, are doing there; to which I reply that I don't really know except that you are there as a high level brain who can handle troubles which are constantly arising; that at present I thought you were the Head of one or more boards, but which ones I did not exactly know. No one has any particular difficulty in understanding this knowing as they do your exceptional qualifications.

I found out to my great surprise I had been invited to the Baltazzi party but the invitation had been misplaced. The woman who keeps my apartment ship-shape found it. So, I have sent a wedding present.

I now am invited to the wedding of Gypsy Altemus next Saturday. I have had to tell Rosalie I won't be there. There is something surprising about all of this. Mrs. Ryan asked me to co-host at her daughter's debut and now Rosalie seems to want me to do something of the same. I would like to but unfortunately I am going to Washington with Admiral Ingersoll on the 26th -- driving to Annapolis on the 27th -- scheduled for a round-table at the Naval Institute on that day and then will remain over to dedicate the Navy Goat: that is the small Navy Goat for Memorial or Smoke Hall. I haven't any schedule at the moment but I am making arrangements to fly back Saturday night as it is possible that President Eisenhower is going to Trinity on Sunday morning and I should like very much to attend the services if so.

Things in Newport are going along very well. Here at the War College the Foreign Students are doing fine and enjoying it. They went to a football game last Saturday and I sat with them. The seats were good and we had a fine time. Captain Colbert is definitely doing a fine job with them. The boys in C&S are working hard to get the EMBS going. Captain Robertson has been making trips as far as Pearl Harbor to discuss the EMBS and he tells me the receptions were excellent. There isn't much new otherwise to report as yet.

Once again I want to say to you both how much I enjoyed being with you last week. With best regards to you both,

Your old friend,

Richard W. Bates

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